

Introduced by Senator Ducheny

February 16, 2005

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 21— Relative to nonprofit and philanthropic organizations.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 21, as introduced, Ducheny. Nonprofit organizations.

This measure would designate the week of March 6 to 12, 2005, as California Nonprofit Organizations and Philanthropy Week.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, One of the great strengths of California is the
2 presence of vigorous nonprofit and philanthropic organizations
3 that provide a private means to pursue public purposes outside
4 the confines of either the market place or the state; and

5 WHEREAS, Residents of California have joined together to
6 form over 139,000 nonprofit organizations, including more than
7 101,000 active charitable nonprofit organizations under Section
8 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, 5,900 private
9 foundations, and 26,000 religious groups, that employ over
10 900,000 people and receive and spend over \$100 billion per year;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Nonprofit and philanthropic organizations touch
13 the lives of every person in California by serving people from all
14 walks of life, socioeconomic groups, political orientations,
15 ethnicities, ages, genders, and cultural backgrounds; and

16 WHEREAS, Embraced within the nonprofit sector are some of
17 our state's premier universities, hospitals, symphonies, museums,
18 theaters, and grassroots groups as well as thousands of
19 community organizations that channel our impulses for charity,

1 justice, and compassion to serve the common good and support
2 and empower those in greatest need; and

3 WHEREAS, One-half of all hospital care, most human
4 services, a significant share of higher education, most low-cost
5 housing, almost all arts and culture, and most social justice and
6 environmental programs are provided by nonprofit organizations;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Over 15 million California residents volunteer
9 three to five hours per week with nonprofit organizations; and

10 WHEREAS, The 5,900 independent foundations, including 15
11 of the nation's largest independent foundations; 100 corporate
12 foundations; and 29 community foundations, including seven of
13 the nation's largest community foundations, with assets of more
14 than \$60 billion, annually give \$3.6 billion in grants to California
15 nonprofit organizations; and

16 WHEREAS, Nonprofit social service and philanthropic
17 organizations have helped millions of Americans get back on
18 their feet, enabling them to become active, productive citizens;
19 now, therefore, be it

20 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
21 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature recognizes the
22 importance and value of nonprofit and philanthropic
23 organizations; and be it further

24 *Resolved,* That the Legislature hereby proclaims March 6 to
25 12, 2005, as California Nonprofit Organizations and Philanthropy
26 Week as presented by the California Association of Nonprofits
27 and its Policy Council; and be it further

28 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmits copies of
29 this resolution to the author for appropriation distribution.